

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 29, which starts with “Figure 11 shows”.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 1, which starts with “Figure 12 shows”.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 42, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

Wild type SPE C from pUMN521 and the two single amino acid mutants were evaluated for capacity to induce rabbit splenocyte proliferation over a toxin dose range of  $0.25$  to  $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  or  $2.5 \times 10^{-6}$  (Figure 11). The Y15A and Y17A mutants were essentially nonmitogenic.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 42, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

The double mutants Y15A/N38A and Y17A/N38A were also tested for ability to stimulate rabbit splenocytes compared to wild type toxin (Figure 12). Both mutants stimulated rabbit splenocytes only to less than one-sixth that seen by comparable amounts of wild type toxin.